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Brackley Rural District Council

# Annual Reports

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Senior Sanitary Inspector

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For the year 1942



## **BRACKLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

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### **Reports of the Medical Officer of Health and Senior Sanitary Inspector**

**For the year ended 31st December, 1942**

Mr CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Reports of the Medical Officer of Health and Senior Sanitary Inspector for the year 1942.

I am,

Yours sincerely,

S. LEFF.

Public Health Department,  
Rural District Council Offices,  
Brackley,  
Northants.

Medical Officer of Health.

January, 1944.

BRACKLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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**Chairman**—Lt. Col. J. L. Fisher, C.M.G., D.S.O., J.P., C.C.

**Vice-Chairman**—L. Watson, Esq., J.P., C.C.

**Health Committee :**

Major G. R. Guinness (Chairman), Mrs M. E. Johnson,  
Mrs. N. N. Kekewich, Mrs. H. M. Norris, H. S. Watson, Esq.,  
R. Barrett, Esq., G. W. Wood, Esq., J. N. Gibbard, Esq.,  
T. Cottrell-Dormer, Esq.

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman are ex-officio Members of the Health Committee.

**Public Health Officers of the Authority.**

**OFFICERS.**

**DAVID J. JONES, M.B.,B.Ch.,D.P.H.,B.Sc.**

Medical Officer of Health (Entered H.M. Forces 21st November, 1942).

**G. K. THOMPSON, M.B.,Ch.B.,D.P.H.**

Acting Medical Officer of Health. (Commenced duties 4th December, 1942 ; died 27th December, 1942).

**W. E. TURBITT, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.**

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

Certificated Foods Inspector, Royal Sanitary Institute.

**J. F. DUNNING, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.**

Sanitary Inspector. (Resigned 4th April, 1942).

**Miss D. W. HOWELL.**

Joint Clerk to the Sanitary Inspectors and Surveyor.

## Vital Statistics.

The following extract from the Vital Statistics of the year relate to the births and deaths after correction for inward and outward transfers as furnished by the Registrar.

|   | Total | Male | Female | Brackley Rural District Council                            | N'ton : C.C. | Engd. & Wales |
|---|-------|------|--------|--|--------------|---------------|
| <b>Live Births.</b>   |       |      |        |  |              |               |
| Legitimate .....  | 174   | 91   | 83     | Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population. |              |               |
| Illegitimate .....  | 14    | 6    | 8      | 19.2   | 16.66        | 15.8          |
|   | 188   | 97   | 91     | Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births               | 31.01        |               |
|   |       |      |        | 25.9   |              |               |
| <b>Still Births .....</b>                                   | 5     | 2    | 3      | Crude death rate per 1,000 estimated resident population   |              |               |
|   |       |      |        | 12.2   | 11.02        | 11.6          |
| <b>Deaths .....</b>   | 120   | 55   | 65     |  |              |               |
| <b>Death Rate of Infants under One Year of Age.</b>         |       |      |        |  |              |               |
| All infants per 1,000 live births ...                       |       | ...  | ...    | 31.9   | 34.46        | 49            |
| Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...     |       |      |        | 28.7   |              |               |
| Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ... |       |      |        | 71.4   |              |               |

## Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

|                        |   |                                       |
|------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| Puerperal Sepsis       | } | Brackley R.D.C. Northamptonshire C.C. |
| Other Puerperal causes |   | Nil. 1.66                             |

### Deaths from :

|  | Total | Males | Females |
|--|-------|-------|---------|
| Cancer (all ages) .....                | 11    | 5     | 6       |
| Measles (all ages) .....               | —     | —     | —       |
| Whooping Cough (all ages) ...          | —     | —     | —       |
| Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ..... | —     | —     | —       |

The registered causes of death were :—

| Causes of Death.                               | Males | Females | Total |
|--|-------|---------|-------|
| 1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ... ..       | —     | —       | —     |
| 2. Cerebro-spinal Fever ... ..                 | —     | 1       | 1     |
| 3. Scarlet Fever ... ..                        | —     | —       | —     |
| 4. Whooping Cough ... ..                       | —     | —       | —     |
| 5. Diphtheria ... ..                           | —     | 1       | 1     |
| 6. Tuberculosis—Respiratory ... ..             | 1     | 2       | 3     |
| 7. Tuberculosis—Other Forms ... ..             | —     | 1       | 1     |
| 8. Syphilitic Diseases ... ..                  | —     | —       | —     |
| 9. Influenza ... ..                            | —     | —       | —     |
| 10. Measles ... ..                             | —     | —       | —     |
| 11. Acute Poliomyelitis: Polio Encephalitis... | —     | —       | —     |
| 12. Acute Infectious Encephalitis ... ..       | —     | —       | —     |
| 13. Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagous    | —     | 1       | 1     |
| 14. Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum ...         | 1     | —       | 1     |
| 15. Cancer of Breast ... ..                    | —     | 1       | 1     |
| 16. Cancer of all other sites ... ..           | 5     | 6       | 11    |
| 17. Diabetes ... ..                            | —     | —       | —     |
| 18. Intra Cranial Vascular Lesions ... ..      | 6     | 7       | 13    |
| 19. Heart Disease ... ..                       | 17    | 21      | 38    |
| 20. Other Diseases of Circulation ... ..       | —     | 2       | 2     |
| 21. Bronchitis ... ..                          | 1     | 4       | 5     |
| 22. Pneumonia ... ..                           | 3     | 1       | 4     |
| 23. Other Respiratory Diseases ... ..          | 2     | 2       | 4     |
| 24. Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum ... ..        | 2     | —       | 2     |
| 25. Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ... ..           | —     | —       | —     |
| 26. Appendicitis ... ..                        | 1     | —       | 1     |
| 27. Other digestive Disorders ... ..           | 1     | 2       | 3     |
| 28. Nephritis ... ..                           | 1     | —       | 1     |
| 29. Puerperal and Post Abortive Sepsis ...     | —     | —       | —     |

|     |  |     |     |     |    |    |     |
|-----|--|-----|-----|-----|----|----|-----|
| 30. | Other Maternal Causes                    | ... | ... | ... | —  | —  | —   |
| 31. | Premature Birth                          | ... | ... | ... | 2  | 1  | 3   |
| 32. | Congenital Malformation : Birth Injury : |     |     |     |    |    |     |
|     | Infantile Disorders                      | ... | ... | ... | —  | 1  | 1   |
| 33. | Suicide                                  | ... | ... | ... | —  | 1  | 1   |
| 34. | Road Traffic Accidents.                  | ... | ... | ... | 2  | 1  | 3   |
| 35. | Other Violent Causes                     | ... | ... | ... | 2  | 1  | 3   |
| 36. | All Other Causes                         | ... | ... | ... | 8  | 8  | 16  |
|     |  |     |     |     | —  | —  | —   |
|     |  |     |     |     | 55 | 65 | 120 |
|     |  |     |     |     | —  | —  | —   |

## General Provision of Health Services.

### (a) LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The Emergency Public Health Laboratory Service, the School of Pathology, South Parks Road, Oxford, examine all swabs submitted by General Practitioners in the area and have also undertaken the bacteriological analysis of water samples and other specimens submitted from this district.

Samples of milk are taken by the Sanitary Inspectors and these are examined in the laboratory section of the County Health Department.

### (b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

Unchanged from 1941 Report.

### (c) NURSING IN THE HOME.

Unchanged from 1941 Report.

### (d) CLINIC AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

|                          |   |                                 |
|--------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| Infant Welfare—Brackley. | } | Organised by<br>County Council. |
| Orthopædic Clinic.       |   |                                 |
| Vision Clinic.           |   |                                 |

Ante-Natal Clinic, Middleton Cheney.

## Infectious Diseases.

During the year there were 54 cases of infectious diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified.

The following table sets forth the nature of the various diseases and shows the distribution of the cases throughout the parishes in the district.



**Notifiable Diseases.**  
(other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1942.

| Parish.                  | Catarrhal<br>Jaundice. | Scarlet Fever. | Diphtheria. | Enteric Fever. | Puerperal<br>Pyrexia. | Pneumonia. | Erysipelas. | Ophthalmia<br>Neonatorum. | Cerebro-Spinal<br>Meningitis. | Measles. | Whooping<br>Cough. | Polio<br>Myelitis | Malaria | TOTAL. |
|--------------------------|------------------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|-----------------------|------------|-------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|----------|--------------------|-------------------|---------|--------|
| Aston-le-Walls ...       | ...                    | ...            | ...         | ...            | ...                   | ...        | ...         | ...                       | ...                           | ...      | ...                | ...               | ...     | ...    |
| Aynho ...                | ...                    | ...            | ...         | ...            | ...                   | ...        | ...         | ...                       | ...                           | ...      | ...                | ...               | ...     | ...    |
| Boddington ...           | ...                    | ...            | ...         | ...            | ...                   | ...        | ...         | ...                       | ...                           | ...      | ...                | ...               | ...     | 2      |
| Chalcombe ...            | ...                    | 2              | ...         | ...            | ...                   | ...        | ...         | ...                       | ...                           | ...      | ...                | ...               | ...     | 2      |
| Charlton ...             | ...                    | ...            | ...         | ...            | ...                   | ...        | ...         | ...                       | ...                           | ...      | ...                | ...               | ...     | 2      |
| Chipping Warden ...      | ...                    | 2              | ...         | ...            | ...                   | ...        | ...         | ...                       | ...                           | ...      | ...                | ...               | 2       | 5      |
| Croughton ...            | ...                    | ...            | ...         | ...            | ...                   | ...        | ...         | ...                       | ...                           | ...      | ...                | 1                 | ...     | 1      |
| Culworth ...             | ...                    | ...            | ...         | ...            | ...                   | ...        | ...         | ...                       | ...                           | ...      | 2                  | ...               | ...     | 2      |
| Edgcote ...              | ...                    | ...            | ...         | ...            | ...                   | ...        | ...         | ...                       | ...                           | ...      | ...                | ...               | ...     | ...    |
| Evenley ...              | ...                    | ...            | ...         | ...            | ...                   | ...        | ...         | ...                       | ...                           | ...      | ...                | ...               | ...     | ...    |
| Eydon ...                | ...                    | ...            | ...         | ...            | 2                     | ...        | ...         | ...                       | ...                           | ...      | ...                | ...               | ...     | ...    |
| Farthinghoe ...          | ...                    | ...            | ...         | ...            | ...                   | ...        | ...         | ...                       | ...                           | ...      | ...                | ...               | ...     | ...    |
| Greatworth ...           | ...                    | 2              | ...         | ...            | ...                   | ...        | ...         | ...                       | ...                           | ...      | ...                | ...               | ...     | 2      |
| Helmdon ...              | ...                    | ...            | ...         | ...            | ...                   | 2          | 1           | ...                       | ...                           | 3        | ...                | ...               | ...     | 2      |
| Hinton-in-the-Hedges ... | ...                    | ...            | ...         | ...            | ...                   | ...        | ...         | ...                       | ...                           | ...      | 2                  | ...               | ...     | 6      |
| Kings Sutton ...         | ...                    | 6              | 2           | ...            | ...                   | 1          | 2           | ...                       | ...                           | 1        | ...                | ...               | ...     | 12     |
| Marston St. Lawrence ... | ...                    | ...            | ...         | ...            | ...                   | ...        | ...         | ...                       | ...                           | ...      | ...                | ...               | ...     | ...    |
| Middleton Cheney ...     | ...                    | ...            | 3           | ...            | ...                   | ...        | ...         | ...                       | ...                           | 2        | ...                | ...               | ...     | 5      |
| Moreton Pinkney ...      | ...                    | 1              | ...         | ...            | ...                   | ...        | ...         | ...                       | ...                           | ...      | ...                | ...               | ...     | 1      |
| Radstone ...             | ...                    | ...            | ...         | ...            | ...                   | ...        | ...         | ...                       | ...                           | ...      | ...                | ...               | ...     | ...    |
| Sulgrave ...             | ...                    | ...            | ...         | ...            | ...                   | 1          | ...         | ...                       | ...                           | 4        | ...                | ...               | ...     | 5      |
| Syresham ...             | ...                    | 1              | ...         | ...            | ...                   | ...        | ...         | ...                       | ...                           | ...      | ...                | ...               | ...     | 1      |
| Thenford ...             | ...                    | 4              | 2           | ...            | ...                   | ...        | ...         | ...                       | ...                           | ...      | ...                | ...               | ...     | 6      |
| Thorpe Mandeville ...    | ...                    | ...            | ...         | ...            | ...                   | ...        | ...         | ...                       | ...                           | ...      | ...                | ...               | ...     | ...    |
| Warkworth ...            | ...                    | ...            | ...         | ...            | ...                   | ...        | ...         | ...                       | ...                           | ...      | ...                | ...               | ...     | ...    |
| Whitfield ...            | ...                    | ...            | ...         | ...            | ...                   | ...        | ...         | ...                       | ...                           | ...      | ...                | ...               | ...     | ...    |
|                          | 1                      | 18             | 7           | —              | 2                     | 4          | 3           | —                         | —                             | 10       | 6                  | 1                 | 2       | 54     |

# Period Distribution of Notified Cases of Infectious Diseases—1942.

A statement shewing the period distribution of the cases notified is given hereunder :—

|                        | Jan. | Feb. | March. | April. | May. | June. | July. | August. | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | TOTAL. |
|------------------------|------|------|--------|--------|------|-------|-------|---------|-------|------|------|------|--------|
| Scarlet Fever ...      | —    | 3    | 2      | 1      | 4    | —     | 1     | —       | 2     | 2    | 1    | 2    | 18     |
| Diphtheria ...         | —    | —    | —      | —      | 1    | —     | 2     | 1       | —     | —    | —    | 2    | 7      |
| Puerperal Pyrexia ...  | —    | —    | —      | —      | 1    | —     | 1     | —       | —     | —    | —    | —    | 2      |
| Pneumonia ...          | —    | —    | —      | —      | 1    | —     | 1     | —       | —     | —    | 1    | 1    | 4      |
| Erysipelas ...         | —    | 1    | —      | —      | —    | —     | —     | —       | —     | —    | —    | 2    | 3      |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum  | —    | —    | —      | —      | —    | —     | —     | —       | —     | —    | —    | —    | —      |
| Measles ...            | —    | —    | —      | —      | —    | 1     | 5     | —       | —     | —    | —    | 4    | 10     |
| Whooping Cough ...     | —    | 2    | —      | —      | —    | —     | 2     | —       | —     | —    | 1    | 1    | 6      |
| Malaria                | —    | —    | —      | —      | —    | —     | —     | —       | —     | —    | —    | 2    | 2      |
| Polio Myelitis         | —    | —    | —      | —      | —    | —     | —     | —       | 1     | —    | —    | —    | 1      |
| Catarrhal Jaundice ... | —    | —    | —      | —      | —    | —     | —     | —       | 1     | —    | —    | —    | 1      |
| Total ...              | —    | 6    | 2      | 1      | 7    | 1     | 12    | 1       | 5     | 2    | 3    | 14   | 54     |

# TUBERCULOSIS.

All new cases of tuberculosis, respiratory or non-respiratory, are reported to the County Medical Officer of Health. Institutional care, when considered necessary, is arranged by the County Medical Officer of Health and County Tuberculosis Officer in the County Sanatoria.

The living conditions, etc., of persons subsequently discharged from these sanatoria are investigated by this Authority.

During the year 12 new cases of Tuberculosis were notified, 8 being of a respiratory nature and 4 non-respiratory.

The following table gives the incidence of new cases with their age distribution.

New Cases during 1942.

| Age Periods.<br>Years. | New Cases   |        |                 |        |
|------------------------|-------------|--------|-----------------|--------|
|                        | Respiratory |        | Non-Respiratory |        |
|                        | Male        | Female | Male            | Female |
| 0 — 1                  | ...         | ...    | ...             | ...    |
| 1 — 5                  | ...         | ...    | ...             | ...    |
| 5 — 15                 | ...         | ...    | ...             | 1      |
| 15 — 25                | 2           | 4      | 1               | 1      |
| 25 — 35                | ...         | 1      | 1               | ...    |
| 35 — 45                | ...         | 1      | ...             | ...    |
| 45 — 55                | ...         | ...    | ...             | ...    |
| 55 — 65                | ...         | ...    | ...             | ...    |
| 65 and over            | ...         | ...    | ...             | ...    |
| Totals                 | 2           | 6      | 2               | 2.     |

## Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious Diseases, etc.

### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

#### Estimated Population :

| Not Imm.     |        | Imm.         |        |
|--------------|--------|--------------|--------|
| Brackley :   |        | Brackley :   |        |
| Age Under 5, | 383    | Age Under 5, | 248    |
| Age Over 5,  | 272    | Age Over 5,  | 1,184  |
| County :     |        | County :     |        |
| Age Under 5, | 9,279  | Age Under 5, | 8,005  |
| Age Over 5,  | 10,134 | Age Over 5,  | 28,254 |

#### Cases of Diphtheria among :

| Non-Imm.     |    | Imm.         |   |
|--------------|----|--------------|---|
| Brackley :   |    | Brackley :   |   |
| Age Under 5, | 2  | Age Under 5, | 0 |
| Age Over 5,  | 11 | Age Over 5,  | 0 |
| County :     |    | County :     |   |
| Age Under 5, | 36 | Age Under 5, | 0 |
| Age Over 5,  | 65 | Age Over 5,  | 1 |

#### Deaths from Diphtheria among :

| Non-Imm.     |    | Imm.         |   |
|--------------|----|--------------|---|
| Brackley :   |    | Brackley :   |   |
| Age Under 5, | 1  | Age Under 5, | 0 |
| Age Over 5,  | 1  | Age Over 5,  | 0 |
| County :     |    | County :     |   |
| Age Under 5, | 11 | Age Under 5, | 0 |
| Age Over 5,  | 4  | Age Over 5,  | 0 |

It will be noticed that there are 13 cases of Diphtheria, with 2 deaths amongst the non-immunised and not one case amongst a much larger population of immunised children. It is thus proved conclusively in Brackley that Diphtheria immunisation is definitely successful as a preventive of Diphtheria.

The County figures definitely support this point of view in so far that there were 101 cases with 15 deaths among a population of 19,413, and only 1 case, with no death, amongst a population of 36,259.

Although the percentage of Diphtheria immunisation is high amongst children over 5 years (88.2%) it is noted that it is rather low (39.2%) for the children under 5 years. The latter figure has, of course, considerably improved since 1941/2, but still greater efforts must be made to immunise a higher proportion of the population bearing in mind the new babies that become one year of age.

The success of the immunising campaign has, in no small part, been due to the very active co-operation of the Head Teachers of the Schools in the rural district and their staffs, the County Health Visitor, Miss

Green, and the propaganda campaign of the County Council. The actual immunisation procedure within the rural district has been performed mainly by the Medical Officer of Health.

The essential part of the future campaign is the protection of every child as soon after its first birthday as is practicable and all means of propaganda should be utilised to ensure success of this very important part of preventive medicine.

So far as the Brackley Rural District is concerned the Assistant School Medical Officer of the County Council will carry out the necessary inoculation at the school medical inspections at the various schools throughout the rural district.

Application should be made to Miss Green, the County Health Visitor, or to Mr. W. E. Turbitt, the Sanitary Inspector, who will arrange for the immunisation to be done.

### **Scabies.**

Under the Scabies Order 1940 extensive powers were given to the Medical Officer of Health for the compulsory examination and treatment of persons with scabies. I am pleased to report that it was not necessary to use these powers during the year 1942. The number of cases treated was 37 of whom 33 were treated at hospital. The facilities for treatment are generally in the home, but if the case is severe or if there are difficult home circumstances the cases are treated at the Daventry Hospital.

The question of a Cleansing Station for this area in conjunction with the Brackley Borough was thoroughly investigated, but the small number of cases in both areas did not justify the provision of same.

### **Drainage and Sewerage.**

During the year 26 drainage systems were repaired or renewed and 7 premises were connected to the sewer.

All new drains were required by the Sanitary Inspectors to withstand the hydraulic test before the work was passed as being satisfactory. Full details of the various sanitary and drainage apparatus or fittings provided or installed are referred to under the headings 'Sanitary Conveniences' and 'Drainage' respectively on Page 16 in the Statement of Sanitary and Housing Work completed during the year under review.

A considerable number of premises in the various parishes throughout the district are unfortunately not able to enjoy the conveniences of a drainage system due to the fact that either no sewer is available or that the existing sewers or disposal works cannot cope with any additional connections being made.

It is hoped that after the war a proper system of Sewers and Sewage Disposal Works can be provided throughout the district.

### **Closet Accommodation.**

In the main pail closets or privies are existing in the district. Privies are a most objectionable type of closet accommodation and are being abolished whenever encountered and a pail closet or (where practicable) water closet provided in lieu thereof. The conversion of closets from the conservancy to water carriage system

is dealt with, when possible, as nuisances or when insufficiencies arise. The conversion of course depends on the availability of sewers in the district.

### **Water Supply.**

During the year 8 samples of water were taken from shallow wells and subjected to bacteriological examination. 1 sample came into Class I of the Ministry of Health's grading, one was Class II and one Class III. In the case of the other samples, bacteriological examination of the water revealed pollution in varying degrees from slight to heavy—and even gross—contamination. Part of the contamination was apparently due to organisms of excretal origin. This serious condition is no doubt due to the objectionable practice—though inevitable during the continuance of the war—of cottagers burying the contents of the pail closets and privies in the garden ground belonging to their cottages in which shallow wells are all too frequently situated. From these remarks it will be appreciated how closely good water supplies are associated with satisfactory means of drainage and sewerage.

Unfortunately, the bulk of the water supplies throughout this rural district are derived from shallow wells of very imperfect construction.

Enough has been said to indicate the grave risk of a water-borne infection breaking out in a district where so many of the population obtain drinking water from shallow wells situated in "sewage sick" garden ground. This risk is accentuated now that many evacuees are residing in this rural area. Local inhabitants, through drinking this water over a considerable number of years, have acquired some degree of immunity from the risks of water-borne infection.

The risk will not be entirely eliminated until the time arrives when the whole district can be served with a proper piped supply of wholesome water from a satisfactory source in conjunction with the introduction of good systems of house drainage and sewerage.

### **Public Cleansing.**

A systematic collection of house refuse is in operation throughout the district.

There is still a noticeable scarcity of metal sanitary refuse bins in the district. Such bins are conducive to the proper storage of household refuse pending collection. By the provisions of Section 75, Public Health Act 1936, a Local Authority is empowered to call on the owner or occupier of any dwellinghouse to provide a sanitary refuse bin.



The Parishes are served as follows :—

| Village.             | Date of Collection.         | Refuse Tip.     |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| King's Sutton        | Alternate Fridays           | King's Sutton   |
| Aynho                | " "                         | Croughton       |
| Middleton Cheney     | First Tuesday in each Month | Greatworth      |
| Chacombe             | " "                         | "               |
| Chipping Warden      | " Wednesday "               | Moreton Pinkney |
| Aston-le-Walls       | " " "                       | "               |
| Boddingtons          | " " "                       | "               |
| Eydon                | " " "                       | "               |
| Thenford             | Second Tuesday "            | Greatworth      |
| Thorpe Mandeville    | " " "                       | "               |
| Marston              | " " "                       | "               |
| St. Lawrence         | " " "                       | "               |
| Culworth             | " " "                       | Moreton Pinkney |
| Moreton Pinkney      | " " "                       | "               |
| Greatworth           | " Wednesday "               | Greatworth      |
| Sulgrave             | " " "                       | "               |
| Helmdon              | " " "                       | "               |
| Radstone             | " " "                       | "               |
| Charlton             | Third Tuesday "             | Croughton       |
| Croughton            | " " "                       | "               |
| Hinton-in-the-Hedges | " Wednesday "               | "               |
| Evenley              | " " "                       | "               |
| Whitfield            | " " "                       | Greatworth      |
| Syresham             | " " "                       | "               |
| Farthinghoe          | " " "                       | "               |

### Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

During the year 989 inspections were carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors. 75 complaints were received and promptly investigated. 115 Preliminary Notices were served and complied with. 9 Statutory Notices were served, all of which have since been complied with.

### Shops and Offices.

No action was necessary or was taken during the year.

### Camping Sites.

No camping sites have been set up in the district.

### Smoke Abatement.

No action was necessary.

### Swimming Baths and Pools.

There are no baths or pools subject to inspection in the district.

### Eradication of Bed Bugs.

In a few cases evidence of infestation was discovered during the year and appropriate measures of disinfection adopted.

## Schools.

Due to shortage of staff and the call upon their services in other directions the Sanitary Inspectors have been unable to complete the inspection of the schools in the district which was commenced in 1941.

Most of the Institutions are under the control of the County Education Department and are visited by the Medical Officer of Health in his capacity as Assistant County Medical Officer. Inclusion in this report would therefore not be relevant. It was not necessary to close any school owing to infectious disease.

## Housing.

### 1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

- |   |     |   |      |
|---|-----|---|------|
| 1 | (a) | Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)   | 151  |
|   | (b) | Number of inspections made for the purpose  | 424  |
| 2 | (a) | Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925            | —    |
|   | (b) | Number of inspections made for the purpose  | —    |
| 3 |     | Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation                                    | Nil. |
| 4 |     | Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation | —    |

### 2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICE.

|   |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 108 |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|

### 3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

- |     |   |   |     |     |     |
|-----|---|---|-----|-----|-----|
| (a) | Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—                               |   |     |     |     |
| (1) | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs               | ...                                     | ... | ... | —   |
| (2) | Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—              |   |     |     |     |
|     | (a)   | By Owners                               | ... | ... | —   |
|     | (b)   | By Local Authority in default of owners | ... | ... | —   |
| (b) | Proceedings under the Public Health Acts :—   |   |     |     |     |
| (1) | Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | ...                                     | ... | ... | 115 |



- (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—
- (a) By Owners ... .. 12
- (b) By local Authority in default of owners Nil.
- (c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.
- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... .. Nil.
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... .. Nil.
- (d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.
- (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... Nil.
- (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... Nil.

4. HOUSING ACT, 1936—PART 4—OVERCROWDING.  
Nothing to report. Present position unknown.

**Statement of Sanitary and Housing Work completed during the Year 1942.**

| Details of work completed.                       | Total. |
|--|--------|
| Roof renewed or repaired... ..                   | 19     |
| Chimney Stack repaired or renewed ... ..         | 6      |
| Gutters repaired or renewed ... ..               | 6      |
| Rainwater pipes repaired or renewed ... ..       | 1      |
| External walls repaired or re-pointed ... ..     | 6      |
| Dampness abated :—                               |        |
| i. repairs to roof ... ..                        | 6      |
| ii. repairs to external walls ... ..             | —      |
| iii. repairs to gutters or rainwater pipes... .. | —      |
| iv. waterproofing of internal walls ... ..       | 4      |
| v. Damp proof course provided ... ..             | 1      |
| Permanent ventilation provided ... ..            | —      |
| Wall plaster repaired ... ..                     | 14     |
| Ceiling plaster repaired ... ..                  | 12     |
| Walls cleaned or redecorated ... ..              | 22     |
| Ceilings cleaned or redecorated ... ..           | 19     |
| Windows repaired or renewed ... ..               | 4      |
| Sashcord provided ... ..                         | —      |
| Doors repaired or renewed ... ..                 | 2      |
| Floors repaired or renewed ... ..                | 3      |
| Stairs repaired or renewed ... ..                | 1      |
| Window and door sills repaired ... ..            | 1      |
| Plinth provided ... ..                           | 3      |
| Through ventilation provided ... ..              | 1      |
| Yard or passage surface paved ... ..             | 4      |
| Firegrates or ranges repaired or renewed ... ..  | 2      |
| New sink provided ... ..                         | 8      |
| New waste pipe to sink provided ... ..           | 7      |
| Separate water supply provided ... ..            | —      |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Washing copper repaired or renewed ... .. | — |
| Wash-house rebuilt or repaired ... ..     | — |
| Ventilated food store provided ... ..     | — |
| Food store repaired or improved ... ..    | — |
| Verminous rooms disinfested ... ..        | 2 |
| Miscellaneous Housing items ... ..        | 1 |
| Staircase handrails provided ... ..       | 2 |
| Wells repaired or cleansed ... ..         | — |

#### Sanitary Conveniences.

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Elsan Closets provided ... ..                  | 1 |
| Separate accommodation provided ... ..         | 2 |
| New W.C.'s provided complete ... ..            | 9 |
| New W.C. basin provided ... ..                 | 9 |
| W.C. cistern repaired or renewed ... ..        | 4 |
| W.C. compartment repaired ... ..               | 1 |
| Closets repaired ... ..                        | 6 |
| Closets limewashed ... ..                      | 4 |
| New pails to closets ... ..                    | 6 |
| Closets cleansed ... ..                        | 7 |
| Urinals repaired or cleansed ... ..            | — |
| Privies converted into water closets ... ..    | 3 |
| Privies converted to pail closets ... ..       | 4 |
| Pail closets converted to water closets ... .. | — |

#### Drainage.

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Drains examined ... ..                  | 42 |
| Drains cleansed ... ..                  | 41 |
| Drains repaired or reconstructed ... .. | 26 |
| Premises drained to sewer ... ..        | 7  |
| Soil pipe or vent-shaft repaired ... .. | 4  |
| Inspection chamber provided ... ..      | 29 |
| Fresh air inlet fixed ... ..            | 5  |
| Vent-shaft provided ... ..              | 9  |
| New gullies provided ... ..             | 32 |
| Miscellaneous draining items ... ..     | 1  |
| New septic tanks provided ... ..        | 4  |

#### Nuisances.

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Offensive accumulation removed ... ..       | 10 |
| Nuisance from keeping animals abated ... .. | 9  |
| Smoke nuisance abated ... ..                | —  |
| Miscellaneous nuisances abated ... ..       | 8  |
| Overcrowding abated ... ..                  | 3  |

#### Cowsheds and Dairies.

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Cowshed cleansed and limewashed ... ..   | 54 |
| Accumulation of manure removed ... ..    | 31 |
| Impervious floor provided ... ..         | 9  |
| Additional ventilation provided ... ..   | 1  |
| Water supply improved ... ..             | —  |
| Dairy cleansed and limewashed ... ..     | 25 |
| Proper dairy provided ... ..             | 1  |
| Floors cleansed ... ..                   | 26 |
| Additional lighting provided ... ..      | 1  |
| Yard surfaces cleansed ... ..            | 26 |
| Proper facilities for sterilizing ... .. | 1  |

**Slaughterhouses.**

|  |     |     |     |     |    |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Slaughterhouse cleansed and limewashed | ... | ... | ... | ... | 14 |
| Offensive accumulations removed        | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1  |
| Miscellaneous items                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2  |

**Bakehouses.**

|                                   |     |     |     |     |    |
|-----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Bakehouse cleansed and limewashed | ... | ... | ... | ... | 27 |
| Benches cleansed                  | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1  |
| Miscellaneous items               | ... | ... | ... | ... | —  |

**Food Preparing Premises, Shops, Stalls, Etc.**

|                                     |     |     |     |     |    |
|-------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Premises cleansed or limewashed     | ... | ... | ... | ... | 22 |
| Benches etc., cleansed              | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1  |
| Waste foodstuffs and refuse removed | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3  |
| Structural repairs carried out      | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2  |
| Miscellaneous items                 | ... | ... | ... | ... | —  |

**Summary of Sanitary Inspector's Visits to Premises during 1942.**

(Dwelling Houses and Premises other than Shops)

|   |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Inspections—Housing Act                         | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | —   |
| Notices served                                  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | —   |
| Re-inspections                                  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | —   |
| Inspections—Public Health Acts                  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 151 |
| Notices served                                  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 115 |
| Re-inspections                                  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 273 |
| Verbal Notices                                  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1   |
| No. of complaints received                      | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 75  |
| Notices complied with (including food premises) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 120 |
| <b>Visits to :—</b>                             |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| Slaughterhouses                                 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 30  |
| Butchers' Shops                                 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 48  |
| Bakehouses                                      | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 56  |
| Fishmongers                                     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | —   |
| Cowsheds  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 111 |
| Dairies and Milk Shops                          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 119 |
| Public Houses                                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 25  |
| Provision Shops                                 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 47  |
| Greengrocers                                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | —   |
| Ice Cream Places                                | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | —   |
| Dining Rooms                                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | —   |
| Schools   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 18  |
| Petroleum Stores                                | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | —   |
| Piggeries                                       | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11  |
| Infectious Diseases Enquiries                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 63  |
| Public Conveniences                             | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 16  |
| Urinals   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | —   |
| Miscellaneous                                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 21  |
| Drains re-laid                                  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11  |
| Drains partly re-laid                           | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 15  |
| Rat infested premises                           | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1   |

**Milk Supply and Control.**

There are 196 registered cowkeepers in the district. Of these cowkeepers 46 produce "Accredited" milk, 4 "Tuberculin Tested"

milk and 146 Undesignated milk. There are 60 Retailers of milk, of whom 12 retail "Designated" milk and 48 "Undesignated" milk.

13 applications were received during the year from persons requiring to be registered with this Authority as cowkeepers. All the applications were granted. 8 milk producers gave up business during the year and their names have been removed from the Register.

230 visits to milk premises were made during the year.

7 written notices in connection with cowsheds, dairies or milkshops were served during the year.

54 samples of milk were taken in the area and submitted to the Methylene Blue or Coliform Test; 1 sample was from a "Designated" producer, 53 samples being Undesignated milk.

Following are the results of the milk samples tested, viz :—

#### METHYLENE BLUE TEST.

No. of samples tested 54. Result of Test—Good 30, Moderate 12, Bad 11.

#### COLIFORM TEST.

1 sample of Pasteurised milk taken. Result :— Good.

Owing to the additional Sanitary Inspector's relinquishing his appointment during the year it has not been possible to pay as much attention to the supervision of milk production in the district as is desirable.

It is a regrettable fact that far too many producers fail to properly cool the milk. In some cases cooling is performed during the summer months, but not throughout the winter months. Cooling of milk should, of course, be carried out all the year round. To facilitate proper cooling an adequate supply of wholesome water is essential, but in various parts of the district there is not, unfortunately, a sufficient and available supply. Each milk producer must have a plentiful supply of water otherwise, in addition to the milk not being properly cooled—even not being cooled at all—it will generally be found that where there is a scarcity of water, the interiors of cowsheds and dairies, and the equipment and milking utensils used in connection therewith, are not kept as clean as they should be. After the War I hope the district will be served with a proper main supply of water.

Many milk producers during the summer months still continue the unwise practise of allowing milk churns to stand in the open without affording protection to the churns against the heat of the sun. Such carelessness, which can easily be remedied, is bound to increase bacteria inside the churns and in the milk which may be inside the churns.

In addition to deficiencies in good methods of milk production, I am convinced that failure to properly cool milk as soon after production as possible, and to keep it at a suitable cool temperature pending collection, are two of the main causes of early souring of milk.

As mentioned in the Annual Report for 1941, in the main the cowsheds in this district are of fairly old design and lack many of the modern developments in the construction of cowsheds which, although they do not compensate for deficiencies in methods, certainly do facilitate in keeping the cowsheds clean.

A considerable number of farm yards are still not efficiently paved or drained. This must cause a lot of unnecessary labour in cleaning the cows before milking is commenced as the cows are bound to contaminate themselves in passing through a dirty yard before entering the cowshed or other place where milking is performed.

### Food Premises.

Shops and places where food is prepared or stored are visited as regularly as is possible and close supervision is exercised to detain foodstuffs which are unfit for human consumption.

Following are details of food premises existing in the district together with the number of visits made during the year, viz.:—

|                                 | No. in District. | No. of Visits. |
|---------------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| No. of Provision Shops .....    | 57               | 47             |
| „ „ Butchers' Shops .....       | 13               | 48             |
| „ „ Dining Rooms .....          | 1                | —              |
| „ „ Public Houses or Inns ..... | 38               | 25             |
| „ „ Bakehouses .....            | 14               | 56             |
| „ „ Registered Cowkeepers ..... | 196              | 230            |

### Food and Drugs Act 1938.

There are 12 registered premises in the district which are affected by this Act, viz :—

12 Butchers' Premises.

### Slaughter of Animals Act 1933.

There are 24 licensed slaughtermen in the district.

The Licences are issued for a period of 3 years from the 1st January, 1940.

### Slaughterhouses

There are 13 Licensed Slaughterhouses in the district. Details of their situation and the respective occupiers of the slaughterhouses are as follows, viz :—

| Situation of Slaughterhouse. | Occupier.          |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| AYNHO .....                  | R. S. Oakey & Sons |
| CHIPPING WARDEN .....        | G. H. Gibbins      |
| CHARLTON .....               | H. Thornton        |
| CROUGHTON .....              | Ben Payne          |
| CULWORTH .....               | G. H. Mumford      |
| KING'S SUTTON .....          | J. Taylor          |
| KING'S SUTTON .....          | J. H. Williams     |
| MIDDLETON CHENEY .....       | J. Waters          |
| MIDDLETON CHENEY .....       | G. H. Jarvis       |
| MORETON PINKNEY .....        | Miss M. Higham     |
| HELMDON .....                | C. R. Buckingham   |
| SYRESHAM .....               | L. M. Blencowe     |
| SYRESHAM .....               | W. G. Thomas       |



## Meat and Foods Inspection.

Your Senior Sanitary Inspector is qualified to inspect and examine meat and foods in the district. The inspection of meat is carried out according to the standard laid down in the Memorandum 62/Foods.

The amount of food condemned during the year is set out in the following table. The decision of the Sanitary Inspector was accepted in all cases where meat or food had of necessity to be condemned.

| Description.          | Weight.       | Disease or Condition |
|-----------------------|---------------|----------------------|
| MEAT.                 |               |                      |
| Pigs lungs .....      | 9½ lbs.       | Pneumonia.           |
| TINNED FOOD.          |               |                      |
| Peas .....            | 4 lbs.        |                      |
| Beans .....           | 2 lbs.        |                      |
| Tomatoes .....        | 15 ozs.       |                      |
| Stewed Steak .....    | 1 lb.         |                      |
| Spaghetti .....       | 1½ lbs.       |                      |
| Pilchards .....       | 26 lbs.       | Decomposition.       |
| Pressed Beef .....    | 4 lbs.        |                      |
| Luncheon Meat .....   | 55 lbs.       | (“blown or           |
| Fish and Tomato Roll  | 9 lbs.        | perforated tins).    |
| Evaporated Milk ..... | 1¾ pints      |                      |
|                       | 103lbs. 7ozs. |                      |
|                       | tinned food   |                      |
|                       | 1¾ pints      |                      |
|                       | milk          |                      |

Following are details of the number of carcasses or parts of carcasses examined by the Sanitary Inspectors during the year in the Butchers' Shops throughout the district, viz. :—

BEEF. 9 hind quarters, 4 fore quarters, 1 side.

PORK. 4 whole carcasses, 3 sides.

MUTTON. 14 whole carcasses.

## Police Court Proceedings.

During the year under review it has been unnecessary to take legal proceedings for failing to comply with requirements by Statute.

S. LEFF.

Medical Officer of Health.



